(c) The Rules for the Manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells, 1989 under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 prohibit the manufacture of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO). The Government of Gujarat has been advised to take appropriate action against the manufacturers of spurious Bt. cotton seeds under the above rules and the seeds legislation.

Subsidies to farmers in developed countries

†1333. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amount of subsidy being given to the farmers in the developed countries of the world is adversely affecting Indian agriculture products;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government have made any effort in this regard under WTO during the last years; and

(d) if so, the details of such efforts, when they were made and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The continued high level of domestic support and export subsidies given to the farmers in the developed countries denies meaningful market access to the developing countries and depresses the international prices of subsidized agricultural products. In order to ensure that Indian farmers are not put to any hardship, the Government have put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the imports of sensitive items and are committed to providing adequate protection to the Indian farmers through various measures, including appropriate calibrations of applied tariffs within bound levels, recourse to trade remedies, and Government support consistent with World Trade Organization (W.T.O.).

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) During the on-going negotiations on W.T.O. Agreement on agriculture, India has periodically submitted negotiating proposals as well as co-sponsored proposals with like minded members of W.T.O. In these negotiating proposals, India has sought, *inter alia*, substantial reduction in all forms of domestic support by the developed countries and elimination of export countries, except the export subsidies provided by the developing countries to reduce their high costs of marketing, including handling, upgrading and other processing costs and costs of transport and freight, permitted under the existing provisions of W.T.O. (Agreement on Agriculture) which would remain without reduction commitments. India has also proposed that food and livelihood security concerns of the developing countries should be safeguarded, and substantial improvements in market access in products of export interest to developing countries should be agreed. The negotiations are scheduled to be concluded by 1st January, 2005.

Private sector investment in agriculture

1334. SHRI R. KAMARAJ:
SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private sector investments are very low in agricultural sector as compared to other areas;

(b) if so, whether Government have analysed the reasons for low private sector investment in agricultural sector; and

(c) what are the actions taken by Government to increase the rate of private sector investment in agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The share of private sector investment in total investment in Agriculture, including Allied Sectors, is higher than the corresponding share in the non-agriculture sector. Investment measures in terms of Gross Capital Formation at 1993-94 prices, by the private sector in the year 2000-01 is 77% in Agriculture,